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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takao HASEGAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/530,563

Filed: April 7, 2005

For: STAPLE CASE

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Confirmation No.: 8997

Group Art Unit: 3728

Examiner: Reynolds, S.A.

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

In an Election of Species Requirement dated December 12, 2006, the period for response to which extends through January 12, 2007, the Examiner required election between Species 1 (Figures 1-18), and Species 2 (Figures 19). Applicants hereby elect Species 1, without traverse, on which claims 10-21 are readable. Applicants respectfully request formal examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

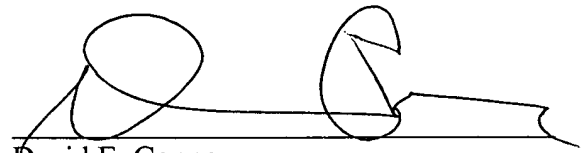
37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: December 28, 2006

By:



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